

A RESOLUTION to urge the U.S. Congress to support the efforts of the Oak Ridge Centers for Manufacturing Technology (ORCMT) and to urge the U.S. Department of Energy to fund ORCMT appropriately.

WHEREAS, the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant has played a significant role in the nation's defense for over 50 years; and

WHEREAS, this Department of Energy facility has developed world class manufacturing capabilities and expertise and can make significant contributions to the nation's economic security through the application of these existing technologies and capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Y-12 Plant remains a critical manufacturing facility in the great state of Tennessee for the national defense; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Ridge Centers for Manufacturing Technology (ORCMT) were established to draw upon the manufacturing and fabrication capabilities at Y-12 and to mesh those capabilities with the research and development skills at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing provides 23% of Tennessee's jobs, 36% higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, ORCMT has already solved problems for over 550 companies throughout Tennessee and over 1,500 companies in 47 states; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing partnerships have been formed with the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services, the State Economic and Community Development Department, the State Board of Regents and the Tennessee Valley Authority; and

WHEREAS, ORCMT has currently stimulated more than \$50 million in Tennessee private-sector benefits, creating or saving the equivalent of 1000 jobs in the state; and

WHEREAS, it is, therefore, appropriate that as elected representatives of Tennessee, we urge the U.S. Congress to support and fund the efforts of ORCMT appropriately; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby urge the United States Congress, and especially the Tennessee delegation, to actively support the efforts of ORCMT and we urge the U.S. Department of Energy to fund ORCMT at a level appropriate to continue its vitally needed economic stimulus to Tennessee and the nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared and sent to the Speaker and the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of the U.S. Senate, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy and to each member of the Tennessee congressional delegation.

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